

Applicant's response of 03/04/2008 is found to be non-responsive.

The status identifier of the claims 3-16, 20 and 23-26 indicates that the claims are Original or Previously Presented, while the bodies of the claims are amended. Furthermore, the status identifier of the claims 38-41 indicates that the claims are new, while the bodies of the claims are amended.

In accordance with Revised Amendment Practice 37 CFR § 1.121 there are seven permissible status identifiers (See attached sheet):

1. (Original)
2. (Currently amended)
3. (Canceled)
4. (Withdrawn)
5. (Previously presented)
6. (Not entered)

37 CFR § 1.121(c) states:

- (2) *When claim text with markings is required.* All claims being currently amended in an amendment paper shall be presented in the claim listing, indicate a status of "currently amended," and be submitted with markings to indicate the changes that have been made relative to the immediate prior version of the claims. The text of any added subject matter must be shown by underlining the added text. The text of any deleted matter must be shown by strike-through except that double brackets placed before and after the deleted characters may be used to show deletion of five or fewer consecutive characters. The text of any deleted subject matter must be shown by being placed within double brackets if strike-through cannot be easily perceived. Only claims having the status of "currently amended," or "withdrawn" if also being amended, shall include markings. If a withdrawn claim is currently amended, its status in the claim listing may be identified as "withdrawn—currently amended."
- (3) *When claim text in clean version is required.* The text of all pending claims not being currently amended shall be presented in the claim listing in clean version, i.e., without any markings in the presentation of text. The presentation of a clean version of any claim having the status of "original," "withdrawn" or "previously presented" will constitute an assertion that it has not been changed relative to the immediate prior version, except to omit markings that may have been present in the immediate prior version of the claims of the status of "withdrawn" or "previously presented." Any claim added by amendment must be indicated with the status of "new" and presented in clean version, i.e., without any underlining.

Applicant needs to provide a proper claim identifier. Failure to remedy the above deficiencies will result in abandonment of the application. Two notices of non-responsive will not be sent.

Since the above mentioned response appears to be a bona fide attempt to reply, applicant is given a time period of ONE MONTH or THIRTY (30) DAYS, whichever is longer, from the mailing date of this notice within which to supply the omission or correction in order to avoid abandonment. EXTENSIONS OF TIME ARE AVAILABLE UNDER 37 CFR 1.136(a). Failure to correct the above noted deficiencies in the next response will result in the abandonment of the application.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Igor Borissov whose telephone number is 571-272-6801. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John W. Hayes can be reached on 571-272-6708. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

/Igor N. Borissov/

Primary Examiner, Art Unit 3628